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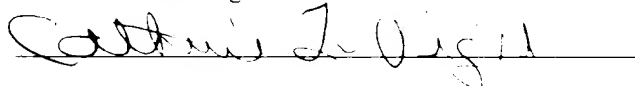
Docket No. 10806-176

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Kenneth A. Hodd et al : Paper No.:
Serial No.: To be assigned : Group Art Unit:
Filing Date: September 14, 2001 : Examiner:

For: **Hydrophilic Macromolecular Compounds****PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Box PCT
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and first action by the Examiner, please amend the present application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 13, 16, 20, 23 and 24 to read as follows:

13. (Amended) Photocrosslinkers according to claim 1 provided with functional groups for crosslinking.

16. (Amended) A method of forming a macromolecular crosslinked network from an aqueous composition comprising a photocrosslinker according to claim 1 by irradiating with light exceeding a wavelength of about 305 nm for a time sufficient to form a solid article.